Rs. 9.01 crores. Commodity-wise statistics of seizures at airports is not, now, maintained separately.

(b) and (c) Besides initiating departmental proceedings for confiscation of smuggled goods and imposition of personal penalties on the persons involved in smuggling of gold and other contraband items, 1,204 such persons were arrested during the period from January to June, 1985. During the same period, orders for preventive detention against 543 persons under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 were passed. No separate figures for airports are, however, maintained.

Legislation to Check Smuggling of Narcotics and Drug Abuse

*13. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring forward a comprehensive Bill to check smuggling of narcotics and drug abuse in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that India figures prominently on the world narcotic smuggling map; and

(c) if so, what measures Government propose to take to prevent smuggling of heroin and other narcotic drugs and also prevent misuse of drugs by the younger generation of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir. A draft for comprehensive legislation on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances to check smuggling of such drugs and substances is at an advanced stage of finalisation for introduction in Parliament.

(a) and (c) The production capacity and the actual production of SAIL steel lem of transit traffic in drugs. This is also evident from the recent reports of the International Narcotics Control Board. In its report for the year 1984 the Board has, *inter alia*, observed that, "India is increasingly used as a transit country for opiates and cannabis destined for other regions of the world and New Delhi and Bombay are reportedly the most important exit points for these drugs".

The field formations remain vigilant to check smuggling including that of narcotics. Appropriate anti-smuggling measures are taken in co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities. Close co-operation with the concerned international agencies is also maintained to curb smuggling of drugs. Action regarding prevention of drug abuse is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare. The matter is kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Finance Minister's interview with Public on TV

*14. DR. H. P. SHARMA.
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the public grievances brought to his notice during his last interview with the public on T. V.; and

(b) what steps have been taken so far in the light thereof to redress the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) In the 'Janvani Programme' on Doordarshan on 2nd July 1985, there were 13 participants voiced their complaints|suggestions parts of country who had an interview with the Finance Minister. The participants voiced their complants|suggestions relating to banking services based on specific problems experienced by them such as delays in encashment|collection of cheques, problems encountered in securing loans, difficulties experienced because of soiled notes and shortage of coins etc. Some issues of general nature such as industrial sickness, increasing overdues of banks were also raised.